DOCUMENT RESUME

ED 382 288 JC 950 274

AUTHOR Lucas, John A.; Meltesen, Cal
TITLE Student Characteristics as Compared to the Community Profile of Fall 1993. Volume XXIII, No. 4.
INSTITUTION William Rainey Harper Coll., Palatine, Ill. Office of Planning and Research.
PUB DATE Dec 94
NOTE 34p.
PUB TYPE Statistical Data (110) -- Reports - Research/Technical (143) -- Tests/Evaluation Instruments (160)

EDRS PRICE MF01/PC02 Plus Postage.
DESCRIPTORS College Credits; Community Colleges; Comparative Analysis; Continuing Education; Credit Courses; Educational Attainment; Enrollment Influences; Noncredit Courses; *Paying for College; Questionnaires; School Surveys; *Student Attitudes; *Student Characteristics; Student Educational Objectives; Two Year Colleges; *Two Year College Students
IDENTIFIERS William Rainey Harper College IL

ABSTRACT

A study was conducted at William Rainey Harper College (WRHC) in Palatine, Illinois, to develop a profile of fall 1993 students, compare student and community demographic data, and determine the percentage of various community sub-groups served by the college. A random sample of 500 degree-credit students (representing 3.2% of the 15,518 students enrolled in fall 1993) and 300 non-degree students (representing 4% of the 7,436 students), were surveyed. Based on responses from 78% of the degree-credit students and 76% of the non-degree students, study findings included the following: (1) the average age of non-degree students was 39, while the average age of degree-credit students was 26; (2) slightly less than 30% of degree-credit students and none of the non-degree students attended WRHC full time; (3) 45% of the degree-credit students and 63% of the non-degree students entered with some college coursework; (4) 60% of the degree-credit students worked full time, earning an average salary of $37,537; (5) almost 80% of the non-degree students worked full time, and nearly 80% earned an average salary of $57,157; (6) slightly less than 50% of the degree-credit students were paying for their own education, and the average salary of parents supporting students was $65,378; and (7) most degree-credit students stated that they were persuaded to attend due to the proximity to campus, cost, and the availability of desired courses, while non-degree students were more influenced by the semester schedules sent by WRHC through the mail. The survey instrument is included. (KP)

****
* Reproductions supplied by EDRS are the best that can be made *
* from the original document. *
****

ED 382 288

William Rainey Harper College

Office of

PLANNING and RESEARCH

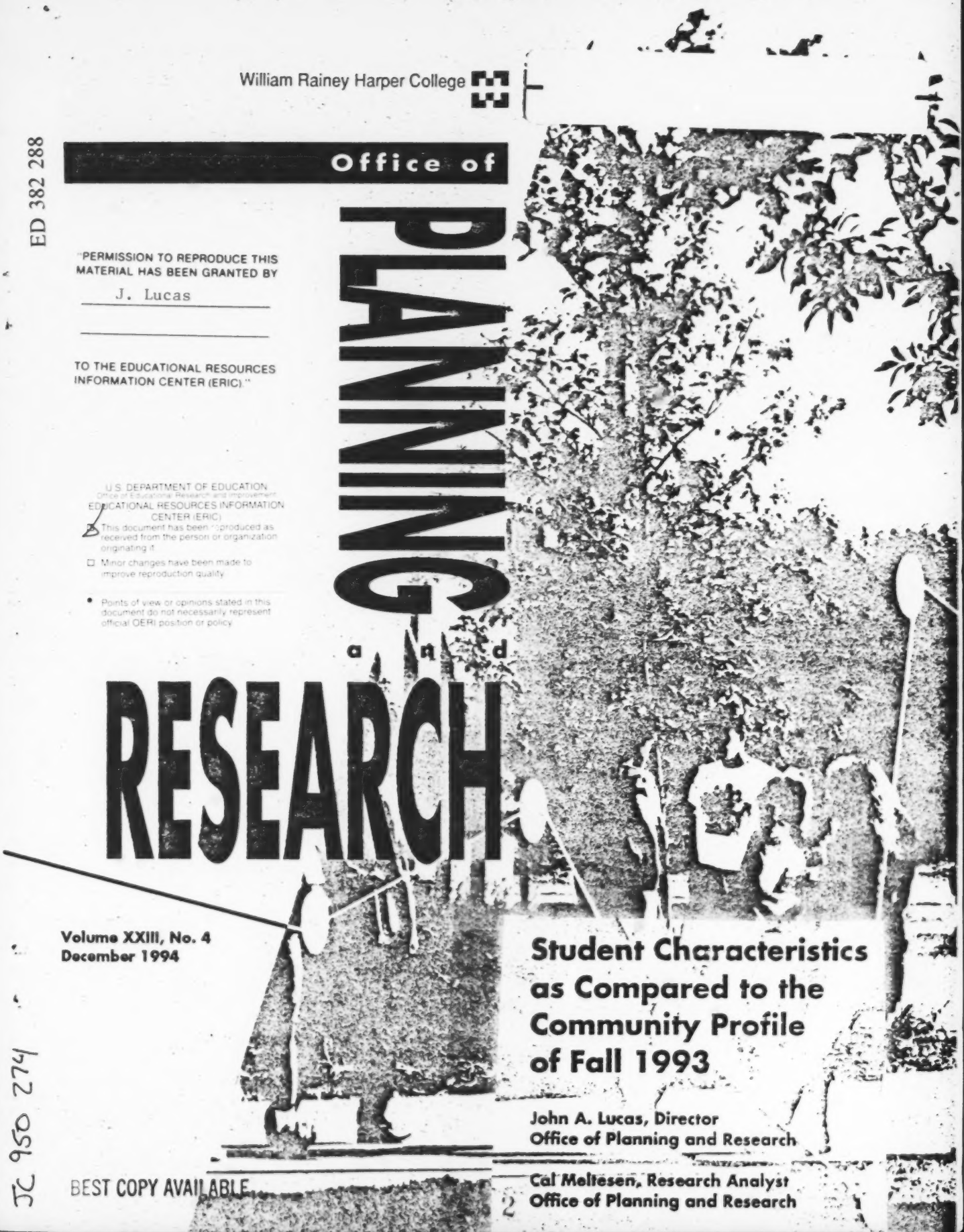
"PERMISSION TO REPRODUCE THIS MATERIAL HAS BEEN GRANTED BY

J. Lucas

TO THE EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES INFORMATION CENTER (ERIC)."

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
Office of Educational Research and Improvement
EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES INFORMATION CENTER (ERIC)

- ☑ This document has been reproduced as received from the person or organization originating it.
- ☐ Minor changes have been made to improve reproduction quality.
- • Points of view or opinions stated in this document do not necessarily represent official OERI position or policy.



Volume XXIII, No. 4
December 1994

Student Characteristics as Compared to the Community Profile of Fall 1993

John A. Lucas, Director
Office of Planning and Research

Cal Meltesen, Research Analyst
Office of Planning and Research

JC 950 274

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

ABSTRACT

The average age of non-degree students is 39. The age of the degree credit students has remained constant each year. Comparable to prior years slightly less than one-third of the credit students attend Harper as full-time students. About 45 percent of the degree credit students enter Harper with some college coursework. Among the non-degree students, more than three-fourths enter Harper with some college coursework and nearly one-half have a bachelor's degree or more. Most of these students attend Harper for courses of general interest. In contrast, the degree credit students take courses either to transfer to another school or enter a career program.

Sixty percent of the dègree credit students work full time. The average salary of those working full time is $37,537. Slightly less than one-half are paying for their own education. Close to 80 percent of the non-degree students work full time. These students hold higher positions than the degree credit students and earn an average salary of $57,157. In the case of dependent students, the average salary of the parents was $65,378. According to the 1990 census, the median household income for 1989 was $47,224 in the Harper district.

Most of the degree credit students stated they were persuaded to attend Harper due to the proximity of the campus, the cost and because they could get courses or programs they desired. The non-degree students are more influenced by the semester schedules sent through the mail by Harper. The number of students traveling to Harper by car pool or public transportation is steadily declining. There was a small increase in credit students showing interest in taking public transportation or car pooling and a corresponding decrease of interest in non-credit students.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

			Page
I.	Purpose		1
II.	Population Surveyed		1
III.	Methodology		1
IV.	Discussion of Results		1-4
V.	Major Conclusions		4-5
VI.	Detailed Results		
	A-	Comparison of Respondents with Sample and Population	6
	B-	Class Load, When Students; Are Enrolled, Where Students are Enrolled, Gender, Marital Status	7
	C-	Age, Children of Students, Present Full-time Occupation	8
	D-	Financial Independence from Parents, Income of Students	9
	E-	Income of Students Who Are Independent of Parents, Income of Parents of Dependent Students	10
	F-	Primary Ethnic Background, Language Used Most at Home, Length of Time Planned to Stay at Harper	11
	G-	Plans for a Major Field, Highest Degree Planned, Highest Education Level Prior to Harper	12
	H-	How Student First Learned About Harper	13
	I-	What or Who Most Convinced Student to Attend Harper	14
	J-	Sources from Which Greatest Help was Received in Obtaining Information at Harper, What Students Plan when Leaving Harper College.	15
	K-	Principle Purpose in Enrolling at Harper, Means of Transportation, Preference for Public Transportation or Car Pool, Sources of Financing Education at Harper, Type of Telephone Students Have at Home.	16
	L-	Students Access to Cable TV, TV Stations Frequently Watched	17
	M-	Radio Stations Frequently Listened - AM/FM, Newspapers Frequently Read	18
	N-	Opinion of Service Received When Calling Harper Opinion of Service Received When In Person At Harper	19
VII.	Appendix -- Survey Instrument		

Purpose

The purpose of this study was to provide a fall 1993 student profile for general information purposes. This profile contains some data which is not available on the automated student data file. This study is part of the institution's outreach efforts to study Harper students and to use the data to help the institution better serve the needs of these groups.

Population Surveyed

A random sample of 500 degree credit students was chosen representing 3.2 percent of the 15,518 enrolled in the fall of 1993. Similarly, a random sample of 300 non-degree students was selected, which represents four percent of the 7,436 students. Responses were received from 392 of the 500 degree credit students for a return rate of 78 percent. Likewise, 228 of the 300 non-degree students answered the survey for a 76 percent response rate.

Survey Responses	Degree Credit Students		Non-Degree Students	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Mail Responses	179	35.8	100	33.3
Telephone Responses	213	42.6	128	42.7
Total Responses	*392*	*78.4*	*228*	*76.0*
Refused to Answer	8	1.6	9	3.0
Non-Forwardable	10	2.0	6	2.0
Could not be reached by Telephone	90	18.0	57	19.0
Total Non-Responses	*108*	*21.6*	*72*	*24.0*
Total Sample	500		300	

Methodology

The instrument shown in the appendix is somewhat similar to the one developed for the 1974 survey and used in subsequent surveys. This survey was modified slightly this year to collect information about radio/television listening and watching habits and for a rating of services when contacting the college. This survey was mailed to the previously described sample as a pre-addressed stamped instrument with business reply postage paid by the College. After three weeks, those who did not respond were sent a second survey. After another three weeks, some of the information was gathered over the telephone from those who still had not responded. Some information was gathered from Harper's data system.

Discussion of Results

The demographic patterns among students shows that since the late '70s the proportion of male students has remained fairly constant - less than 50 percent of the student population.

Discussion of Results (continued)

The ratio of men to women students continues to be one to two for non-degree students. Slightly less than one third of the degree credit students are enrolled full time. More than one-third of the degree credit students are under age 21. Considering educational backgrounds that students bring to Harper, about 45 percent of the degree credit students have some college and 18 percent have at least a bachelor's degree. This percentage has steadily increased: in 1989 it was only 10 percent. Among the non-degree students, over three-fourths have had some college while just under one-half hold a bachelor's degree or more. As in the past, most of the non-degree students enroll at Harper for courses of general interest. In contrast, the degree credit students enroll in a baccalaureate-oriented program in order to transfer to a four-year institution or to complete a specific career program. The principal reasons for enrolling at Harper remained stable throughout recent years.

The average age of Harper students has also remained stable throughout the years. The degree credit average age is about 28 years and the non-degree student's age is about 39, based upon mainframe reports. More than one-third of the degree credit students are married and fewer than two-thirds of the non-degree students are married.

Sixty-nine percent of the degree credit students enrolled in day courses with 31 percent enrolling in evening courses. In step with prior years, one-third of the degree students attend Harper as a full-time student. For non-degree seeking students this ratio was 25 percent taking day courses and 75 percent enrolled in the evening. Only one out of 10 non-degree students have classes during both the day and the evening. In addition, two percent of all students take courses during the weekends. While most of the degree credit students take courses only on the main campus (90%), the percentage of these students taking courses off the main campus decreased slightly - down to nine percent. In step with prior years, the non-degree students take close to 40 percent of their classes off the main campus.

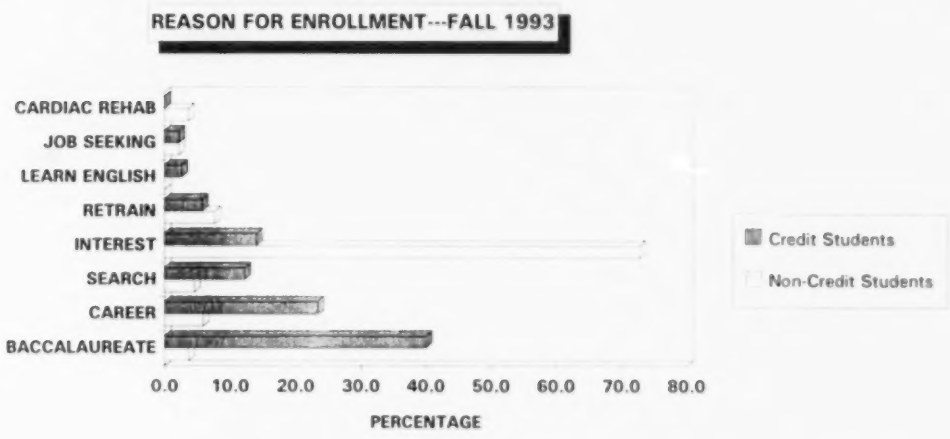
When asked about their employment status, 61 percent of the degree credit students indicated they have full-time jobs. Another nine percent are homemakers or non-working students. This data is not significantly different from the last several years. Responses to the question on full-time employment showed that 16 percent were employed in semiprofessional jobs, and nine percent worked in semiskilled jobs, which is also similar to the prior study. Close to 20 percent of the degree credit students hold professional or executive level positions. This is somewhat higher than reported in the past.

Among non-degree students, over three-fourths are employed full-time with 38 percent holding professional or executive level positions. About 27 percent of these students hold semiprofessional jobs. The average salary of degree credit students working full-time, who are independent of their parents, was $37,537. Non-degree students employed full-time have an average salary of $57,157. The average salary of the parents of dependent students was $65,378. According to the 1990 census, the median household income in our district for 1989 was $47, 224.

Discussion of Results (continued)

Students were asked to reveal the source of funds for financing their education at Harper. For degree credit students, 48 percent of the cost was funded by the student's money, 22 percent by parents, 12 percent by their employer and another nine percent by their spouse. Another eight percent was funded by scholarships, veteran's benefits and loans. The trend for more employers financing the student's tuition costs ended this year. Among the non-degree students three-fourths of the cost was funded by the students themselves, 10 percent by their parents, and seven percent by their employer. Those reporting contributions from parents is much higher than reported in the past.

In reporting their plans for the future, one-half of the degree credit students plan to transfer, while one-fourth stated they plan to obtain a job or they would continue in their same job. Again, a slight increase in those reporting said they would continue to use Harper as a source of education. Over the last three years a small trend in this direction has taken place. With regard to non-degree students, more stated they were going to continue to use Harper as a source of education, 51 percent compared to 43 percent for each of the last two years. In the fall of 1991, only 32 percent reported they were going to continue using Harper as a source of education. With the increase in the above responses, there is a decrease in responses to 'not sure. Over the past three years the 'not sure' percentage has decreased from 13.6 to 6.6 to 4.1 percent. Less than one-third of these students will continue on their same job. Only one percent said they plan to get a better job or promotion. Therefore, personal development is a significant reason for the non-degree students attending Harper. This goes along with the reason they give for attending Harper, that is, to take courses for general interest. See the chart below



More non-degree students than in the past plan to attend Harper for more than three years. In contrast, the degree students enroll at Harper either to transfer to another school or to enroll in a specific career program. Most of the students were persuaded to attend Harper due to the

Discussion of Results (continued)

fact they could get the courses or program they wanted. Another factor for degree credit students attending Harper was financial. The January 26, 1994, 'The Chronicle of Higher Education' reported a UCLA study saying there are record proportions of students saying low tuition was a very important reason why they picked their college: 32 percent in 1992 and 16.6 percent in 1979. The non-degree students said it was the capability to get the program they wanted.

Not surprisingly, close to two-thirds of the degree credit students purpose in attending Harper is to get some sort of degree. This is explained by the educational level this group brings with them when coming to Harper. Just about one-half of them are recent high school graduates. In contrast, close to one-half of the non-degree students already have a bachelor's degree or more.

The greatest sources of information about Harper for degree credit students continue to be College catalog or handbook (40 percent), followed by the semester schedule (32 percent), counselors (31 percent), and brochures and mailings (19 percent). The non-degree students identified the semester schedule as the most helpful (52 percent), followed by brochures and mailings (25 percent), and the College catalog or handbook (23 percent). Less than two percent of the non-degree and degree credit students said they did not have enough information.

Most of the credit students drive to Harper rather than riding with someone else or using public modes of transportation. However, close to seven percent of the non-credit students ride with someone else. Very few students reported taking a bus, taking a van, car pool, or riding a bicycle/motorcycle. There was a small increase in credit students showing interest in taking public transportation or car pooling and a corresponding decrease in interest in non-credit students.

Lastly, when the students were asked about the quality of service they received from Harper staff, either in person or by telephone, they rated the service they received as 'very good.' Close to two percent expressed the service they received was 'below average' or 'poor.'

Major Conclusions

The average age of non-degree students is 39. The age of the degree credit students has remained constant each year. Comparable to prior years slightly less than one-third of the credit students attend Harper as full-time students. About 45 percent of the degree credit students enter Harper with some college coursework. Among the non-degree students, more than three-fourths enter Harper with some college coursework and nearly one-half have a bachelor's degree or more. Most of these students attend Harper for courses of general interest. In contrast, the degree credit students take courses either to transfer to another school or enter a career program.

Major Conclusions (continued)

Sixty percent of the degree credit students work full-time. The average salary of those working full-time is $37,537. Slightly less than one-half are paying for their own education. Close to 80 percent of the non-degree students work full-time. These students hold higher positions than the degree credit students and earn an average salary of $57,157. The average salary of the parents on whom the students are dependent is $65,378. According to the 1990 census, the median household income for 1989 was $47,224 in the Harper district.

Most of the degree credit students stated they were persuaded to attend Harper due to the proximity of the campus, the cost and because they could get courses or programs they desired. The non-degree students are more influenced by the semester schedules sent by Harper through the mail.

The number of students getting to Harper by car pool or public transportation is steadily declining. There was a small increase in credit students showing interest in taking public transportation or car pooling and a corresponding decrease in interest in non-credit students.

COMPARISON OF RESPONDENTS WITH SAMPLE AND POPULATION

Degree Credit

	Total Sample				Total Student Population			
Category	1990	1991	1992	1993	1990	1991	1992	1993
Male	46.2	42.7	40.2	39.8	42.0	41.3	41.1	37.0
Female	53.8	57.3	59.8	60.2	58.0	58.7	58.9	63.0
Under 21	32.5	27.3	28.1	33.9	35.8	32.4	31.3	37.6
21 & Over	67.5	72.7	71.9	66.1	64.2	67.6	68.7	62.4
Full-time	24.2	23.0	21.4	28.4	31.1	30.1	30.2	30.8
Part-time	75.8	77.0	78.6	71.6	68.9	69.9	69.8	69.2
Day	43.2	43.0	44.8	45.4	64.9*	63.1*	63.7*	64.4*
Evening	39.0	37.0	36.4	35.8	35.1*	36.9*	36.3*	31.3*
Combined	17.2	18.2	16.2	16.8				
Weekend	0.6	1.8	2.6	2.0				3.8*

*Percent of Student Credit Hours

Non-Degree

	Total Sample				Total Student Population			
Category	1990	1991	1992	1993	1990	1991	1992	1993
Male	31.0	34.0	34.3	33.0	30.9	33.3	34.1	32.5
Female	69.0	66.0	65.7	67.0	69.1	66.7	65.9	67.5
Under 21	3.1	2.2	1.0	2.2	6.7	7.2	6.7	8.5
21 & Over	96.9	97.8	99.0	97.8	93.3	92.8	93.3	91.5
Full-time	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Part-time	99.7	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Day	24.3	25.7	25.3	24.0	39.6*	40.4*	37.1*	25.4*
Evening	61.3	62.3	59.3	63.0	60.4*	59.6*	62.9*	74.6*
Combined	11.3	10.0	13.3	11.3				
Weekend	3.0	3.0	2.0	1.7				

*Percent of Student Credit Hours

	Degree Credit			Non-Degree		
	1991 Pct	1992 Pct	1993 Pct	1991 Pct	1992 Pct	1993 Pct
Class Load						
Full Time	23.0	21.4	28.4	0.3	0.0	0.0
Part Time	77.0	78.6	71.6	99.7	100.0	100.0
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number Responding	*500*	*500*	*500*	*300*	*300*	*300.0*
When Students Are Enrolled						
Day Only	43.0	44.8	45.4	25.7	25.3	24.0
Evening Only	37.0	36.4	35.8	61.3	59.3	63.0
Weekends Only	1.8	2.6	2.0	3.0	2.0	1.7
Mixture of Times	18.2	16.2	16.8	10.0	13.3	11.3
Portion of class hrs/day	54.0	59.2	56.8	42.3	35.4	35.3
Portion of class hrs/evening	41.5	36.4	39.1	41.3	45.6	47.5
Portion of class hrs/weekend	4.6	4.4	4.1	16.4	19.0	17.2
Total of Mixture Hours						
Number Responding	*500*	*500*	*500*	*300*	*300*	*300*
Where Students Are Enrolled						
Main Campus	94.2	91.9	90.6	65.6	67.3	66.7
Barrington HS	0.4	0.8	0.0	5.9	5.1	7.1
Northeast Center	3.1	2.7	2.2	25.3	21.7	20.6
Hoffman Estates			0.2			
Buffalo Grove			0.8			
Elk Grove			5.2			
Winston Park Jr. High			0.6			
Other Locations	2.3	4.6	0.4	3.3	5.9	5.7
Enrolled at Main Campus Only	90.2	88.0	90.6	59.7	61.0	60.6
Enrolled at 1 Loc Only(Other MC)	5.6	7.8	9.0	31.3	29.7	30.3
Enrolled at more than 1 location	4.2	4.2	0.4	9.0	9.3	9.0
Number Responding	*500*	*500*	*500*	*300*	*300*	*300*
Gender						
Male	42.7	40.2	39.8	34.0	34.3	33.0
Female	57.3	59.8	60.2	66.0	65.7	67.0
Number Responding	*496*	*500*	*493*	*300*	*300*	*297*
Marital Status						
Single	58.0	58.0	59.0	25.9	27.6	27.9
Married	36.0	37.7	35.8	60.0	57.9	56.2
Divorced/Separated	5.4	4.0	4.4	8.6	6.5	7.8
Widow/Widower	0.5	0.3	0.8	5.5	7.9	8.2
Number Responding	*369*	*371*	*385*	*220*	*214*	*219*

	Degree Credit			Non-Degree		
	1991 Pct	1992 Pct	1993 Pct	1991 Pct	1992 Pct	1993 Pct
Age						
Below 16	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0
16	0.0	0.2	0.4	0.0	0.3	0.0
17	0.0	1.2	10.7	1.1	0.0	0.4
18	7.5	6.8	8.3	0.4	0.3	0.4
19	10.1	11.0	7.9	0.0	0.0	0.7
20	9.7	8.8	6.4	0.7	0.3	0.7
21	6.9	7.0	18.4	1.1	0.3	10.5
22-25	20.0	19.6	14.0	9.3	8.7	12.0
26-30	13.7	11.8	11.8	15.8	11.8	12.0
31-35	10.7	12.2	7.9	10.4	10.8	13.5
36-45	14.7	14.4	5.2	21.9	26.1	10.5
46-55	4.8	4.8	6.2	17.6	15.0	21.5
56-65	0.8	1.8	1.7	9.3	11.5	8.1
Over 65	1.0	0.2	1.0	12.5	14.6	9.1
Number Responding	*495*	*499*	*484*	*279*	*287*	*27.*
Ave Age	*28.3*	*28.2*	*26.1*	*42.2*	*43.8*	*39.5*
Pct Under 21	*27.3*	*28.1*	*33.9*	*2.2*	*1.0*	*2.*
Children of Students						
Have no children	70.4	69.1	70.1	40.3	35.3	42.9
Have preschoolers	9.3	9.9	7.4	8.6	6.7	9.1
Have school age	15.7	18.8	15.9	16.7	17.0	16.4
Have post highschool	5.6	5.0	5.6	15.4	12.1	14.6
Have children who have left home	6.9	6.0	7.2	33.5	35.7	30.1
Number Responding	*375*	*382*	*391*	*221*	*224*	*226*
Present Full-time Occupation						
Managerial/Executive	8.4	5.3	8.2	12.7	8.6	15.3
Professional	6.5	8.5	11.4	11.4	23.1	22.8
Sales-professional	4.3	5.9	5.3	8.2	8.6	2.3
Semi-professional/tech	20.5	18.1	16.2	29.1	18.6	26.5
Semi-skilled	11.9	10.6	9.0	6.4	4.5	5.6
Skilled trades	4.9	3.7	2.1	1.8	3.2	2.8
Small business	0.5	1.1	1.3	2.3	3.2	2.8
Supervisor/public official	2.2	3.7	4.0	4.5	3.2	1.9
Unskilled	0.8	1.9	3.7	0.0	0.0	0.0
Student,not emp FT	31.8	31.9	30.2	10.9	12.7	9.3
Homemaker and student	8.4	9.3	8.5	12.7	14.5	10.7
Number Responding	*371*	*376*	*377*	*220*	*221*	*215*

	Degree Credit			Non-Degree		
	1991 Pct	1992 Pct	1993 Pct	1991 Pct	1992 Pct	1993 Pct
Financial Independence from Parents						
Not Independent-live with parents	33.7	28.4	34.0	10.4	8.0	7.3
Independent-live with parents	12.6	13.1	12.9	1.9	2.5	5.9
Independent-live away from parents	53.7	58.4	53.0	87.7	89.5	86.8
Number Responding	*365*	*373*	*379*	*212*	*200*	*220*
Income of Students (All reported)						
Category						
Less than$5,000	18.1	15.7	19.0	6.9	3.6	2.7
$5,000-$7,499	7.5	8.2	7.1	0.0	0.7	2.0
$7,500-$9,999	6.3	7.5	6.7	0.0	2.2	0.7
$10,000-$11,999	3.0	6.6	5.5	0.6	1.4	2.0
$12,000-$14,999	5.4	3.5	4.9	2.3	2.2	2.0
$15,000-$19,999	6.3	6.3	7.1	8.1	5.0	2.7
$20,000-$24,999	6.9	6.3	8.3	5.8	10.1	9.5
$25,000-$29,999	7.8	8.5	5.5	9.8	8.6	9.5
$30,000-$34,999	8.7	6.6	4.9	11.0	7.2	7.4
$35,000-$39,999	4.8	6.3	5.8	5.2	6.5	6.1
$40,000-$49,999	9.0	6.3	8.0	14.5	5.8	12.2
$50,000-$59,999	5.4	6.0	4.9	6.9	15.1	10.8
$60,000-$69,999	3.9	4.7	3.4	8.1	7.9	6.1
$70,000-$79,999	2.1	3.8	2.8	6.9	10.1	9.5
$80,000-$100,000	2.4	2.2	4.0	4.0	9.4	4.7
$100,000-$150,000	1.5	1.3	1.5	4.6	4.3	6.1
over $150,000	0.6	0.3	0.6	5.2	0.0	6.1
Number Responding	*332*	*318*	*326*	*173*	*139*	*148*
Median Income	*$22,283*	*$21,625*	*$19,674*	*$40,000*	*$43,750*	*$44,137*
Mean Income	*$28,397*	*$28,390*	*$28,431*	*$49,587*	*$48,516*	*$54,130*
Percent Over $25,000	*46.4*	*45.9*	*41.4*	*76.3*	*74.8*	*78.4*

	Degree Credit			Non-Degree		
	1991 Pct	1992 Pct	1993 Pct	1991 Pct	1992 Pct	1993 Pct
Income of Students Who Are Independent of Parents						
Less than$5,000	5.4	4.5	7.0	4.6	1.7	0.7
$5,000-$7,499	2.7	4.5	2.5	0.0	0.0	1.5
$7,500-$9,999	3.6	5.0	2.0	0.0	1.7	0.0
$10,000-$11,999	0.9	6.3	5.0	0.7	1.7	2.2
$12,000-$14,999	5.4	5.0	4.0	2.0	1.7	0.7
$15,000-$19,999	6.3	6.8	7.0	6.6	4.2	2.2
$20,000-$24,999	9.9	6.8	11.9	5.3	11.9	10.2
$25,000-$29,999	10.8	11.7	8.5	10.5	10.2	3.8
$30,000-$34,999	13.1	8.1	7.5	11.2	6.8	3.0
$35,000-$39,999	6.3	9.0	8.5	4.6	6.8	3.6
$40,000-$49,999	13.1	9.0	11.4	16.4	6.8	13.1
$50,000-$59,999	7.7	7.2	7.5	7.9	14.4	10.9
$60,000-$69,999	5.9	6.3	5.0	9.2	5.9	3.6
$70,000-$79,999	2.7	5.0	3.5	7.9	11.0	10.2
$80,000-$100,000	3.2	3.2	6.5	3.9	10.2	5.1
$100,000-$150,000	2.3	1.4	2.5	4.6	5.1	3.6
over $150,000	0.9	0.5	0.0	4.6	0.0	3.6
Number Responding	*222*	*222*	201	*152*	*118*	137
Median Income	*$31,810*	*$27,788*	*$31,333*	*$42,600*	*$44,375*	*$46,367*
Mean Income	*$37,354*	*$35,217*	*$37,537*	*$50,974*	*$50,178*	*$57,157*
Percent Over $25,000	*65.8*	*61.3*	*60.7*	*80.9*	*77.1*	*82.5*

Income of Parents of Dependent Students (Both Credit & Non-Credit)						
	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993
Less than $5,000	3.9	6.5	4.2	2.8	2.1	2.0
$5,000-$8,999	2.6	3.2	0.0	1.4	2.1	0.0
$9,000-$12,999	2.6	1.1	1.4	0.0	2.1	0.0
$13,000-$16,999	2.6	1.1	5.6	5.6	0.0	4.1
$17,000-$20,999	1.3	1.1	1.4	0.0	0.0	2.0
$21,000-$24,999	3.9	2.2	4.2	1.4	4.2	2.0
$25,000-$29,999	1.3	9.7	4.2	7.0	8.3	4.1
$30,000-$34,999	11.6	6.5	11.1	8.5	4.2	6.1
$35,000-$39,999	7.8	8.6	9.7	8.5	6.3	8.2
$40,000-$49,999	22.1	11.8	11.1	15.5	20.8	8.2
$50,000-$59,999	13.0	12.9	15.3	12.7	12.5	10.2
$60,000-$69,999	6.5	9.7	8.3	11.3	16.7	14.3
$70,000-$79,999	3.9	7.5	5.6	5.6	2.1	12.2
$80,000-$100,000	10.4	7.5	12.5	8.5	8.3	12.2
$100,000-$150,000	3.9	7.5	2.8	8.5	4.2	10.2
over $150,000	2.6	3.2	2.8	2.8	6.3	4.1
Number Responding	77	93	72	71	48	49
Median Income	*$45,879*	*$48,182*	*$46,875*	*$49,090*	*$49,167*	*$51,429*
Mean Income	*$51,610*	*$54,823*	*$52,653*	*$57,120*	*$58,135*	*$55,378*
Percent Over $25,000	*83.1*	*84.9*	*83.8*	*88.7*	*89.6*	*89.8*

Community Data 1979 --- Median Family Income: *$30,900*
Percent of Families over $25,000 : *67.5*
Daily Herald Data 1986 --- Median Income: *$50,621*

	Degree Credit 1991 Pct	1992 Pct	1993 Pct	Non-Degree 1991 Pct	1992 Pct	1993 Pct
Primary Ethnic Background						
White American/European Descent	85.5	78.3	83.3	92.8	90.8	86.8
Asian American/Oriental	9.4	14.9	11.7	4.0	6.0	7.9
All other American Ethnic\Minority	2.4	2.4	2.6	1.3	2.3	2.2
Latino, Mexican American	0.3	2.1	1.3	0.0	0.0	0.4
Black American(African American)	1.1	1.1	0.3	1.3	0.5	1.3
Foreign Students/F or J visa	0.8	0.7	0.5	0.0	0.5	0.4
American Indian	0.5	0.6	0.3	0.4	0.0	0.9
Number Responding	*373*	*360*	*384*	*223*	*218*	*228*
Language Used Most at Home						
English	90.8	92.6	87.9	95.6	95.9	93.6
Spanish	0.5	2.2	1.3	1.1	0.5	0.7
Asian Indian(provincial language)	1.8	1.5	3.1	0.9	0.5	2.7
Polish	1.1	1.1	0.6	0.0	0.0	0.4
Japanese	1.3	0.8	2.8	0.4	0.5	0.0
Filipino	0.0	0.6	0.5	0.0	0.0	0.0
Korean	1.6	0.3	0.4	0.0	0.9	0.0
Arabic	0.0	0.3	1.8	0.0	0.0	0.0
Chinese	1.1	0.3	0.0	0.4	0.9	1.3
French	0.0	0.3	0.0	0.4	0.0	0.0
German	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.9	0.4
Italian	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.0	0.0
Greek	0.0	0.0	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.4
Vietnamese/Thai/Camb/Laotian	0.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Parsi	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.4	0.0	0.0
Armenian	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.4	0.0	0.4
Crotian	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Bulgarian	0.0	0.0	1.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Hungarian	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Syrian	0.3	0.0	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.0
Length of Time Planned to Stay at Harper						
More than 3 years	12.9	10.6	14.6	17.0	20.8	32.4
Three Years	9.4	9.0	10.2	2.6	1.6	5.9
Two years	26.4	25.6	24.2	10.8	9.3	6.5
One year	24.0	27.5	25.1	9.3	10.4	10.3
Just one semester	27.3	27.2	25.9	60.3	57.9	44.9
Number Responding	*363*	*367*	*363*	*194*	*183*	*185*
Average Number of Semesters	*3.4*	*3.2*	*3.5*	*2.7*	*2.9*	*3.9*

	Degree Credit			Non-Degree		
	1991 Pct	1992 Pct	1993 Pct	1991 Pct	1992 Pct	1993 Pct
Plans for a Major Field						
Have a Definite Major/no change	50.4	47.2	50.3	31.2	19.9	14.9
No major/don't need one	13.9	16.4	14.9	55.6	67.2	70.1
Changed field or plan to	18.0	15.8	17.3	2.5	2.0	6.5
Searching for a field	11.7	11.5	10.5	2.9	2.5	5.0
Have bachelor's degree/new program	3.8	5.9	6.0	7.8	8.0	3.0
Transfer student/new curriculum	2.2	0.5	1.0	0.0	0.0	0.5
Number Responding	*367*	*373*	*382.0*	*205*	*201*	*201*
Highest Degree Planned						
No degree or certificate	15.4	12.5	11.6	42.9	44.2	40.4
Associate-comm coll degree	27.5	30.5	25.6	13.8	9.1	11.1
Bachelor's (BA or BS)	32.6	35.5	37.2	26.7	28.4	28.8
Master's (MA or MS)	21.6	18.6	21.1	15.2	14.4	15.9
PhD , Ed.D, L.L.D., M.D.	3.0	2.9	4.5	1.4	3.8	3.8
Number Responding	*371*	*377*	*379*	*210*	*208*	*208*
Highest Ed Level/Prior to Harper						
Some high school	0.5	1.3	1.0	2.8	1.9	2.7
High school graduate	53.5	49.5	47.7	18.1	20.5	16.4
GED	2.1	1.6	1.5	1.4	0.5	1.3
Technical/business school grad	1.6	3.4	2.1	1.9	3.7	2.2
Some college	22.2	20.0	22.6	28.7	19.1	28.4
Associate degree -cc degree	2.7	3.2	3.8	5.6	4.7	2.2
Some hours beyond associate degree	2.4	2.1	2.8	1.9	2.3	0.4
Three year nursing	0.5	0.0	0.3	1.9	0.5	0.4
Bachelor's degree(BA or BS)	11.0	15.8	14.4	30.6	35.3	28.0
Master's degree or higher	3.5	3.1	3.9	7.4	11.6	4.0
Pct Baccalaureate or higher	*14.4*	*18.9*	*18.2*	*38.0*	*47.0*	*45.8*
Pct Baccalaureate/21 or over	*15.0*	*20.1*	*22.2*	*30.0*	*35.6*	*38.3*

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

	Degree Credit			Non-Degree		
	1991 Pct	1992 Pct	1993 Pct	1991 Pct	1992 Pct	1993 Pct
How Student First Learned About Harper						
Saw campus or live near by	35.8	33.6	36.5	42.0	31.4	44.9
Parents,friends, or relatives	28.5	29.9	26.2	18.9	19.2	17.5
Parents			*3.3*			*1.8*
Siblings			*6.4*			*0.7*
Spouse			*0.3*			*0.9*
Children			*0.0*			*1.3*
Friends			*16.2*			*12.8*
High school counselor/Teacher	6.7	5.8	7.5	2.1	1.4	0.9
Semester schedule from Harper/mail	5.3	5.6	6.2	12.4	18.8	17.5
Cannot remember	4.7	5.4	5.4	5.0	2.0	3.1
Literature at HS	3.7	4.7	4.2	0.5	1.4	2.0
Inquiries for special programs	3.7	3.6	3.5	2.6	5.1	0.9
Newspaper or advertising	1.9	2.1	2.4	6.0	5.7	3.0
Heard through employees at work	2.7	1.9	1.9	2.3	2.8	2.6
Brochures/letters in mail from Harp	1.3	1.7	3.1	6.5	8.2	4.5
Visit by Harper rep at HS	0.1	1.2	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.0
Employed near Harper	3.0	1.2	0.0	0.1	0.5	0.0
Real estate agent, Welcome Wagon	0.3	0.6	0.3	0.1	0.1	0.2
Heard/ from college I attended	0.8	0.5	0.0	0.0	0.5	0.0
Referendum or tax bill	0.0	0.5	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.0
Harper area HS cooperative career	0.3	0.3	0.5	0.0	0.0	0.0
HS competition at Harper	0.0	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Literature at work	1.1	0.0	0.9	0.5	0.0	0.9
Talked to Harper couns/faculty	0.2	0.0	0.3	0.5	1.5	0.5
Rotary	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.5	0.0	0.0
Senior citizen center	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.5	0.0
Remember when built	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Harper open house	0.0	0.0	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.0
Public library	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.5	0.0
Harper Tour Van	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.5	0.0
Television	0.0	0.0	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.2
Small Business Seminar			0.0			0.4
Family Doctor			0.0			0.4
Formerly or currently working at Harper	0.0	0.0	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.0

	Degree Credit			Non-Degree		
	1991 Pct	1992 Pct	1993 Pct	1991 Pct	1992 Pct	1993 Pct
What or Who Most Convinced Student to Attend Harper						
Parents,friends, or relatives	18.2	29.6	12.8	18.2	17.4	11.4
Parents			*6.3*			*0.8*
Friends			*6.1*			*8.4*
Siblings			*0.0*			*0.9*
Children			*0.0*			*0.4*
Spouse			*0.4*			*0.9*
Convenient to get to	23.0	19.2	20.4	17.4	13.8	2.9
Could get specific program	17.2	13.4	19.7	25.3	28.4	37.3
Fact it was so inexpensive	10.1	8.1	14.0	5.8	3.1	4.4
No particular reason	5.2	5.2	1.8	4.6	2.8	0.9
Broaden my knowledge base	4.4	4.7	8.1	3.4	6.5	8.6
Easy to transfer to 4-year school	2.6	3.2	3.3	0.0	1.4	2.5
Semester schedule from Harper/mail	2.3	2.8	2.0	10.8	12.4	9.2
High school counselor/teacher	2.5	2.5	2.9	0.0	0.0	0.4
Literature at work	3.1	1.9	0.3	2.1	1.4	1.3
Nice place to find direction in life	1.9	1.8	3.3	0.2	1.0	0.1
Worked at Harper	0.0	1.8	0.3	0.5	2.6	0.4
Visit to campus/talked coun/fac	1.0	1.2	2.8	0.5	0.9	0.4
Harper is better than closest CC	0.6	1.2	0.8	0.5	0.1	0.0
Facilties on campus impressed me	0.0	1.1	0.7	0.5	0.5	0.9
Harpers reputation for excellence	3.5	1.0	0.0	2.1	2.5	1.8
Scholorships	0.3	0.7	0.4	0.0	0.0	0.0
Athletic programs	0.3	0.6	0.5	0.0	0.0	0.0
Brochures/letters via mail	1.4	0.4	0.8	5.1	3.7	3.8
Could not get accepted at other schools	0.5	0.4	0.9	0.0	0.0	0.0
Newspaper or advertising	0.0	0.3	0.4	0.9	0.7	0.8
Insurance reasons	0.0	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Wanted to use VA benefits	0.3	0.2	0.8	0.0	0.0	0.0
Literature at HS	0.8	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.9
Harper area HS cooperative	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.9	0.0	0.0
Economy and availability of jobs	0.0	0.0	0.3	0.0	0.2	0.4
Faculty/Staff at another college sugg	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.5	0.0
Moved into area	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Employees at work convinced them	0.0	0.0	0.8	0.0	0.0	1.3
Could improve on GPA for transfer	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

	Degree Credit			Non-Degree		
	1991 Pct	1992 Pct	1993 Pct	1991 Pct	1992 Pct	1993 Pct
Sources from which greatest help was received in obtaining information at Harper						
College catalog or handbook	45.6	34.1	40.4	23.3	18.8	23.2
Semester schedule	30.5	31.2	32.3	45.6	52.2	52.3
Counselors at Harper	22.6	23.1	31.0	4.2	4.0	2.7
Brochures or letters received in mail	22.6	22.8	18.6	35.8	29.0	25.0
Faculty	18.6	15.5	18.9	6.5	6.7	11.4
Found information on own	10.2	8.9	15.5	10.7	12.9	12.3
Other students	11.9	8.1	14.7	1.4	0.9	5.5
Newspaper releases	6.7	7.6	6.0	12.1	15.2	8.6
Admissions office	7.5	6.0	5.8	4.2	7.1	5.0
Other Harper staff	7.5	5.2	6.0	4.7	4.5	3.6
Relatives or friends	7.3	4.2	5.2	4.7	4.0	4.1
Information Booth	3.8	3.1	3.7	1.9	3.1	4.1
Employer or fellow workers	2.2	2.4	0.8	3.3	0.4	1.4
Poster/Bulletin boards	5.4	1.8	2.4	4.2	1.8	0.9
Business office	1.1	1.6	1.3	0.0	1.3	1.4
Orientation program/open house	1.1	1.6	1.6	0.5	0.0	0.5
Financial Aid Office/Veteran's Office	2.2	1.0	2.6	0.5	0.0	0.0
Public library	1.1	1.0	0.5	0.5	1.7	0.5
LRC	0.0	0.0	1.6			0.0
HS counselors	1.3	0.5	0.3	0.0	0.4	0.0
Career dev courses/survival	0.3	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.4	0.0
ESL Office	0.0	0.0	0.3			0.0
International Office	0.0	0.0	0.3			0.0
Cable TV	0.0	0.0	0.3			0.0
Prior college	0.0	0.0	0.3			0.0
Computer terminals	0.5	0.5	0.0	0.5	0.4	0.0
Student newspaper-Harbinger	1.6	0.5	1.6	0.5	0.4	0.0
Disabled Student Services	0.0	0.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.5
Did not receive enough information	1.3	0.3	1.0	1.4	1.3	1.8
Student Activity participation	0.3	0.3	0.8	0.0	0.4	0.5
Displays in Community	0.5	0.3	0.0	0.5	0.9	0.0
Employment at Harper	1.1	0.3	0.5	0.0	0.9	0.5
Senior citizen center	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.9	0.9	0.0
Community agency	0.3	0.0	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.0
Woman's Program			0.0			0.5
Red Cross Wellness Class			0.0			0.5
What Students Plan when leaving Harper						
Transfer to another educational inst.	48.9	44.6	50.5	5.6	3.8	6.8
Obtain a job	13.0	13.5	12.8	4.2	4.7	2.7
Continue on same job	11.9	12.7	10.5	30.8	31.3	29.3
Continue at Harper/Personal dev.	8.1	11.4	13.3	32.2	43.1	51.4
Not sure	9.5	10.0	6.9	13.6	6.6	4.1
Get a promotion/better job	4.9	5.9	4.6	2.3	1.4	0.9
Move out of the area	1.1	0.8	0.3	2.3	0.9	1.4
Become/Continue as homemaker	2.2	0.5	1.0	7.0	7.1	1.4
Become self employed	0.5	0.3	0.3	0.9	0.9	1.8
Retirement	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Finish high school	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.9	0.0	0.0
Number Responding	***370***	***370***	***392***	***214***	***211***	***222***

	Degree Credit 1991 Pct	1992 Pct	1993 Pct	Non-Degree 1991 Pct	1992 Pct	1993 Pct
Principle Purpose in Enrolling at Harper						
Enrolled in bacc. prog/4 yr school	32.8	35.6	40.0	0.9	3.8	3.6
Enrolled in specific career program	26.3	29.6	23.4	11.3	11.3	5.8
Take courses for general interest	22.8	16.4	14.0	73.8	74.1	72.8
Search for field of interest	11.1	10.6	12.2	3.6	0.5	4.5
For retraining or refresher	4.3	5.3	5.7	10.0	9.9	7.6
Learn English language	2.7	2.6	2.6	0.5	0.5	0.0
Job seeking purposes			2.1			2.2
Cardiac Rehab or fitness opportunities			0.0			3.6
Number Responding	*369*	*379*	*385*	*221*	*212*	*224*
Means of Transportation to Harper						
Drive own car	91.5	87.7	90.7	90.2	89.6	91.2
Use family car	4.5	7.1	6.4	2.2	2.3	1.3
Ride with someone else	2.1	3.1	1.8	5.3	5.4	6.6
Take bus	0.5	1.3	0.8	0.4	1.4	0.0
Car pool	0.5	0.5	0.3	1.3	0.5	0.9
Company Van/car	0.5	0.3	0.0	0	0	0.0
Bicycle/motorcycle	0.3	0	0.0	0.4	0.5	0.0
Number Responding	*375*	*381*	*389*	*225*	*222*	*228*
Preference for Public Transportation or Car Pool						
Interested in bus transportation	11.7	8.9	10.8	8.1	7.1	6.6
Prefer car pool	12.3	7.3	9.8	8.1	7.1	4.4
Not interested	80.3	84.6	81.5	85.1	86.2	90.3
Sources of Financing Education at Harper						
Self	46.7	46.9	48.1	80.7	72.5	74.9
Parents	18.9	16.2	21.9	2.7	3.5	9.9
Spouse	10.1	14.3	9.4	9.1	11.6	6.0
Employer Contributions	18.1	13.8	12.2	6.5	11.8	7.4
Veterans Benefits	1.1	3.8	2.5	0.3	0.6	0.2
Scholarships	5.0	3.5	3.0	0.3	0.0	1.2
Loans	0.0	1.4	3.0	0.3	0.0	0.5
Type of Telephone Students Have at Home						
Touchtone	94.9	97.3	96.2	92.9	89.7	92.0
Rotary	5.7	3.5	2.3	7.1	9.4	7.6
Pulsetone	4	3.2	1.8	3.1	4.5	2.7

	Degree Credit			Non-Degree		
	1991 Pct	1992 Pct	1993 Pct	1991 Pct	1992 Pct	1993 Pct
Students Access to Cable TV						
Yes			70.2			60.4
No			29.8			39.6
TV Stations Frequently Watched						
Discovery			42.7			45.9
CNN			36.2			38.7
Sports Channel			33.6			27.9
MTV			31.0			11.7
ESPN			29.7			27.9
Cable Movie Channels(Premium)			28.0			28.8
USA			25.0			21.6
TNT			24.1			20.7
Lifetime			21.1			23.4
VH1			12.5			4.5
CNBC			9.1			13.5
ABC			4.7			3.6
Other-all less than 3			4.3			9.0
CBS			3.9			2.7
NBC			3.4			1.8
A&E			3.4			7.2
WTTW			3.0			4.5
Nickelodeon			2.6			3.6
Watches everything			2.6			3.6
WGN			2.2			0.9
FOX			2.2			1.8
Weather			1.7			0.0
The Learning Channel			1.7			4.5
Channel 20			1.3			0.0
TBS			1.3			0.9
Number Responded			*232*			*111*

	Degree Credit 1991 Pct	1992 Pct	1993 Pct	Non-Degree 1991 Pct	1992 Pct	1993 Pct
Radio Stations Frequently Listened						
AM Stations						
WBBM			4.7			7.9
WGN			3.6			10.6
WLS			2.7			4.6
WMBI			1.9			0.9
WMAQ			0.8			3.7
WPNT			0.5			0.5
WSCR			0.5			0.5
WAIT			0.3			1.4
WAUR			0.3			0.0
WJJD			0.3			2.8
Total AM			15.7			32.9
FM Stations						
WKQX			17.6			8.8
WBBM			11.0			4.6
WLUP			6.6			5.6
WCKG			6.0			3.2
WWBZ			5.5			1.4
WUSA			5.2			6.5
WPNT			4.9			3.7
WXRT			4.9			3.7
WLIT			4.4			4.2
WNUA			4.1			7.4
WGCI			3.0			0.5
WJMK			2.5			3.7
WMBI			1.9			1.4
WTMX			1.9			2.3
WFMT			1.4			6.5
WBEZ			1.1			0.9
WXLC			0.8			0.0
WMIB/WNIZ			0.5			0.9
WYTZ			0.5			0.5
WVVX			0.3			0.9
Total FM			*84.3*			*66.7*
Number Responded			*232*			*216*
Newspapers Frequently Read						
Daily Harold			44.1			45.1
Chicago Tribune			44.1			55.9
Chicago Sun Times			12.9			8.0
Wall Street Journal			2.2			3.8
New York Times			1.4			0.0
USA Today			1.1			2.8
Elgin Courier			0.6			0.9
Japanese paper			0.6			0.0
Rolling Meadows Review			0.3			0.0
The Reader			0.3			0.0
Schaumburg Review			0.3			0.0
Country Side			0.3			0.5
Number Responded			356			213

	Degree Credit 1991 Pct	1992 Pct	1993 Pct	Non-Degree 1991 Pct	1992 Pct	1993 Pct
Opinion of Service Received When Calling Harper						
Excellent			23.1			38.2
Very Good			56.2			46.5
Average			17.3			12.9
Below Average			1.8			1.4
Poor			1.6			0.9
Total			*381*			*217.0*
Index Rating			*1.98*			*1.79*
Rating 1(exc);2 VG; 3 Avg; 4 BA, 5 Poor						
Opinion of Service Received When in Person at Harper						
Excellent			24.5			32.7
Very Good			52.7			52.4
Average			19.7			13.5
Below Average			2.1			0.0
Poor			1.1			1.4
Total			*376*			*208*
Index Rating			*2.00*			*1.82*
Rating 1(exc);2 VG; 3 Avg; 4 BA, 5 Poor						

APPENDIX

- Survey Instrument

William Rainey Harper College
1200 West Algonquin Road
Palatine, Illinois 60067-7398
Office of Planning and Research

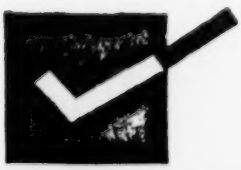
Important Mail - Please Read

Address Correction Requested

Nonprofit Organization
U.S. Postage
Paid
Palatine, Illinois
Permit No. 54

When it
Comes to
Harper,
you're
the Expert

25



Please Complete and Return This Survey.

Your Expert Opinion is Important to Harper.

William Rainey Harper College
1200 West Algonquin Road
Palatine, Illinois 60067-7398
708/397-3000

Fall 1993

Dear Student:

Because of state and community requirements and because of a desire on our part to be more responsive to community needs, it is imperative for us to obtain information on our student body.

To that end, we are asking you to respond to this questionnaire as a part of a random sample of Harper College students. Since this is only a sample, it is very important that each student selected answer the survey as completely as he/she can and mail it back to the College. Any information you supply will be kept strictly confidential among appropriate college administrators.

We greatly appreciate your response to this survey. When you have completed it, please fold booklet with Harper College return address on the outside, tape or staple closed, and mail.

Very truly yours,

John A. Lucas

John A. Lucas, Director
Office of Planning and
Research

SC/93

NO POSTAGE
NECESSARY
IF MAILED
IN THE
UNITED STATES

BUSINESS REPLY MAIL
FIRST CLASS PERMIT NO. 182 PALATINE, ILLINOIS
POSTAGE WILL BE PAID BY ADDRESSEE

OFFICE OF PLANNING AND RESEARCH
WILLIAM RAINEY HARPER COLLEGE
1200 W ALGONQUIN RD
PALATINE IL 60067-9987

Student Characteristics Questionnaire

Demographic

1. Sex ____Male ____Female

2. Marital Status – Check (✓) one. ____A. Single ____B. Married ____C. Divorced ____D. Widow/Widower

3. Age – Check (✓) one.

____A. 16
____B. 17
____C. 18
____D. 19
____E. 20
____F. 21
____G. 22-25
____H. 26-30
____I. 31-35
____J. 36-40
____K. 41-45
____L. 46-55
____M. 56-65
____N. Over 65

4. Your present full-time occupation. If retired or inactive, mark previous occupation. Check (✓) one.

____A. Managerial or executive (business executive, banker, store manager)
____B. Professional (doctor, lawyer, professor, nurse, R.N.)
____C. Sales – professional
____D. Semi-professional or technical (programmer, lab technician, secretary)
____E. Semi-skilled (machine operator, construction worker, clerk)
____F. Skilled trades (electrician, carpenter, plumber)
____G. Small business owner or farm owner
____H. Supervisor or public official (office manager, policeman)
____I. Unskilled (general laborer, farm laborer)
____J. Student, not employed full-time
____K. Homemaker and student

5. What do you plan to do when you leave Harper? Check (✓) one.

____A. Transfer to another educational institution
____B. Obtain a job
____C. Obtain a promotion
____D. Continue on same job I have now
____E. Become/continue as a homemaker
____F. Do not plan to leave Harper – plan to continue to use Harper off and on over the years for my own personal development
____G. I am not sure
____H. Move out of the area
____I. Become self-employed
____J. Join the Armed Forces
____K. Other (specify) _____

6. Primary ethnic background. Check (✓) one. If multi-racial, check (✓) all that apply.

____A. Asian American/Oriental – Chinese, Japanese, Korean, Hawaiian, Indian, Samoan or Filipino
____B. Native American Indian
____C. African American
____D. Mexican American
____E. All other American ethnic minorities, such as Puerto Rican, Cuban, Spanish or Latin American, etc.
____F. White American of European descent
____G. Foreign students who carry "F", "J" or "H" visa
____H. Other (specify) _____
____I. I prefer not to answer this question.

7. Your total income last year (include spouse if married). Check (√) one.

____A. Less than $5,000
____B. $ 5,000-$ 7,499
____C. $ 7,500-$ 9,999
____D. $10,000-$11,999
____E. $12,000-$14,999
____F. $15,000-$19,999
____G. $20,000-$24,999
____H. $25,000-$29,999
____I. $ 30,000-$ 34,999
____J. $ 35,000-$ 39,999
____K. $ 40,000-$ 49,999
____L. $ 50,000-$ 59,999
____M. $ 60,000-$ 69,999
____N. $ 70,000-$ 79,999
____O. $ 80,000-$ 99,999
____P. $100,000-$150,000
____Q. Over $150,000

8. Transportation to Harper — Check (√) your primary mode.

____A. Drive my own car
____B. Ride with someone else
____C. Use family car
____D. Car pool
____E. Motorcycle
____F. Bicycle
____G. Take bus
____H. Walk
____I. Drive company car/van

9. Would you prefer public transportation or would you like to be contacted for a car pool? Check (✓) **ALL** that apply.

____A. I would be interested in bus transportation.
____B. I would prefer to be in a car pool.
____C. Not interested in either.

10. What is the highest educational level you attained prior to attending Harper? Check (✓) one.

____A. Some high school
____B. High school graduate
____C. GED equivalency diploma
____D. Technical or business school graduate
____E. Some college
____F. Associate degree — community college degree
____G. Some hours beyond associate degree
____H. Three-year nursing degree
____I. Bachelor's degree (B.A. or B.S.)
____J. Master's degree
____K. Ph.D. or Ed.D. — Doctorate

Family Information

11. Which language is most used at home? Check (✓) one.

____A. English
____B. Spanish
____C. German
____D. Italian
____E. Polish
____F. French
____G. Greek
____H. Japanese
____I. Chinese
____J. Vietnamese, Thai, Cambodian Laotian
____K. Korean
____L. Hindi
____M. Scandinavian
____N. Filipino
____O. Latvian
____P. Arabic
____Q. Russian
____R. Other (specify) _____

12. What age children do you have? Check (✓) **ALL** that apply.

____A. Have no children
____B. Have pre-schoolers at home
____C. Have school age children at home
____D. Have post high school children at home
____E. Have children who have left home

13. Are you financially independent (less than $600 from parents and not listed as income tax dependent)? Check (✓) one.

____A. Yes — live away from parents
____B. No — live with parents
____C. Yes — but live with parents and pay for room and board and all other expenses

14. Skip to the next item if your parents *do not* claim you as a dependent.

To plan financial aid programs for entering students, colleges need to know the financial background of their students. If your parents still claim you as a dependent, please estimate as accurately as possible your parents' income before taxes. (Leave blank if considered confidential, if you do not know, or if you are financially independent of parents.) Check (✓) one.

____A. Less than $5,000
____B. $ 5,000-$ 8,999
____C. $ 9,000-$12,999
____D. $13,000-$16,999
____E. $17,000-$20,999
____F. $21,000-$24,999
____G. $25,000-$29,999
____H. $30,000-$34,999
____I. $ 35,000-$ 39,999
____J. $ 40,000-$ 49,999
____K. $ 50,000-$ 59,999
____L. $ 60,000-$ 69,999
____M. $ 70,000-$ 79,999
____N. $ 80,000-$ 99,999
____O. $100,000-$150,000
____P. Over $150,000

15. What are the sources of financing your education while at Harper College? Include **ONLY** tuition, fees, books and school supplies. **DO NOT** include living expenses. Give the approximate percentages that add up to 100 percent.

A. Self ..... _____
B. Spouse ..... _____
C. Parents ..... _____
D. Scholarships ..... _____
E. Veterans Benefits ..... _____
F. Loans ..... _____
G. Employer Contribution .... _____
Total 100%

Establishing a Relationship with Harper College

16. How did you first hear about Harper College? Check (✓) one.

____ A. Parents
____ B. Siblings
____ C. Friends
____ D. Literature at the high school
____ E. High school teacher
____ F. High school counselor
____ G. Literature at work
____ H. Saw the Harper campus or live close by
____ I. Newspaper articles
____ J. Newspaper ads
____ K. Radio ads
____ L. Cable TV ads
____ M. Semester schedule received in the mail from Harper
____ N. Harper area high school cooperative orientation program
____ O. Cannot remember when I first heard about Harper College
____ P. Visit by Harper representative to my high school
____ Q. Heard about Harper through employees where I am employed
____ R. Talked to Harper counselor or faculty member
____ S. Real estate agent
____ T. Welcome Wagon
____ U. Wanted specific program–found Harper College had it
____ V. Brochures or letters received through the mail from Harper College
____ W. Harper College open house
____ X. Heard about Harper at the college I attended before
____ Y. High school competition at Harper College
____ Z. Scholarship opportunity
____ AA. Other (specify)_____

17. What or who most convinced you to first attend Harper College? Check (✔) one.

___ A. Parents
___ B. Siblings
___ C. Friends
___ D. Literature at the high school
___ E. High school teacher
___ F. High school counselor
___ G. Literature at work
___ H. Harper counselor or faculty
___ I. The fact that it was so inexpensive
___ J. The fact that it is so convenient to get to
___ K. Semester schedule received in the mail from Harper
___ L. The facilities on the campus impressed me
___ M. A visit to Harper's campus
___ N. Harper area high school cooperative career orientation program
___ O. Newspaper articles
___ P. Newspaper ads
___ Q. Radio ads
___ R. Cable TV ads
___ S. The fact I could get the specific program or courses(s) I wanted
___ T. No particular reason
___ U. Brochures or letters received through the mail from Harper
___ V. I found it was easy to transfer courses to a four-year college
___ W. Employees at work convinced me
___ X. Wanted to use V.A. benefits
___ Y. Harper College is better than the closest community college
___ Z. Scholarships available
___ AA. It is a good place to find direction for your life
___ BB. I worked at Harper College
___ CC. The economy and the availability of jobs
___ DD. Could not get accepted at any other college
___ EE. Faculty or staff at another college recommended Harper College
___ FF. Insurance reasons
___ GG. Harper's reputation for excellence
___ HH. Athletic program
___ II. I wanted to broaden my knowledge
___ JJ. Other (specify)_____

Goals at Harper College

18. During the fall semester were you A.____Full-time student (12 hours or more) B.____Part-time student

19. When were you enrolled during the fall semester? Check (✔) one.

___A. All courses were during the day (7 am-5 pm)
___B. All courses were in the evening (5 pm-11 pm)
___C. All courses were on weekends
___D. A mixture of times – give number of hours in each time period
____ credit hours during the day
____ credit hours during the evening
____ credit hours during the weekend

20. Where were you enrolled during the fall semester? Check (✔) one.

___A. All courses on the main campus in Palatine
___B. All courses at Barrington High School
___C. All courses at Hoffman Estates High School
___D. All courses at the Northeast Center
___E. All courses at Buffalo Grove High School
___F. All courses at Elk Grove High School
___G. All courses at Winston Park Jr. High
___H. All courses at another off-campus location
___I. A mixture of locations—give number of hours at each location

____ credit hours main campus
____ credit hours Barrington High School
____ credit hours Hoffman Estates High School
____ credit hours Northeast Center
____ credit hours Buffalo Grove High School
____ credit hours Elk Grove High School
____ credit hours Winston Park Jr. High
____ credit hours other location

21. Which of the following best indicates why you enrolled at Harper? Check (✔) one.

___A. To enroll in a baccalaureate oriented program in order to transfer to a four-year college (specify field)_____
___B. To enroll in a specific career program (specify)_____
___C. To search for a major field of interest
___D. To take courses for personal interest
___E. For retraining or refresher purposes
___F. To learn the English language
___G. Job seeking purposes
___H. Cardiac Rehab or fitness opportunities

22. Which of the following statements applies to you? Check (✔) one.

___A. I have a definite major field which has remained unchanged since entering Harper College.
___B. I have changed fields since entering Harper College.
___C. I plan to change my major field in the near future.
___D. I do not have a major field of study and do not need one at the present time.
___E. I am searching for a field.
___F. I am a transfer student and entering a different curriculum at Harper College.
___G. I have a bachelor's degree or higher and starting a new program at Harper College.

23. Please indicate how long you presently plan to attend Harper? Check (✔) one.

___A. More than three years
___B. Three years
___C. Two years
___D. One year
___E. Just one semester

24. Highest degree planned or earned. Check (✔) one.

___A. None — no degree
___B. Associate — Community College degree
___C. Bachelor's (B.A. or B.S.)
___D. Master's (M.A. or M.S.)
___E. Ph.D. or Ed.D.

25. As a student, from what source do you receive the greatest help in obtaining information you need to know about Harper? Check (✔) all that apply.

___ A. Faculty
___ B. Other Harper staff
___ C. Counselors at Harper
___ D. Brochures
___ E. College catalog
___ F. Other students
___ G. Newspaper releases
___ H. Semester schedule
___ I. Employer or fellow workers
___ J. Find information I need on my own
___ K. Admissions Office
___ L. Relatives or friends
___ M. Posters or bulletin board
___ N. High school counselor
___ O. High school teacher
___ P. Career development courses or college survival course
___ Q. Did not receive enough information
___ R. Business office
___ S. Financial Aid office
___ T. Computer terminal
___ U. Learning Resources Center (Library at Harper)
___ V. Student newspaper — *The Harbinger*
___ W. Student activity participation
___ X. Information booth
___ Y. Displays in the community
___ Z. Community agency
___AA. My employment at Harper College
___BB. Public library in community
___CC. Orientation program or open house

____DD. Other (specify)_____

26. What type of telephone do you have in your home? ____A. Touchtone ____B. Pulsetone ____C. Rotary

27. Do you have cable TV? If NO, skip question 28.

____ A. Yes
____ B. No

28. What cable stations do you frequently watch? Check (√) all that apply.

____ A. CNBC
____ B. CNN
____ C. Discovery Channel
____ D. ESPN
____ E. Lifetime
____ F. MTV
____ G. Sports Channel
____ H. TNT
____ I. USA
____ J. VH-1
____ K. Other(specify)_____
____ L. Other(specify)_____

29. To what radio station do you *most frequently* listen?

_____
_____

30. What time of day are you most likely to listen to the radio?_____

31. What newspaper do you *most frequently* read?

____ A. Daily Herald
____ B. Chicago Tribune
____ C. Chicago Sun Times
____ D. USA Today
____ E. Wall Street Journal
____ F. Other (specify)_____

32. Indicate your opinion of the service you generally receive when you call the College.

____ A. Excellent
____ B. Very Good
____ C. Average
____ D. Below Average
____ E. Poor

Comments:_____

33. Indicate your opinion of the service you generally receive when you interact in person with College staff, other than faculty.

____ A. Excellent
____ B. Very Good
____ C. Average
____ D. Below Average
____ E. Poor

Comments:_____

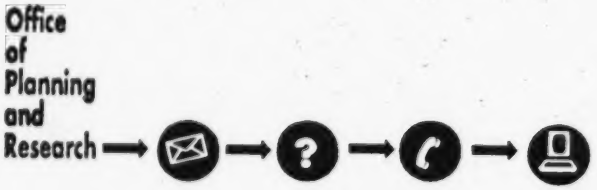
***Thank you* for participating in this survey. When you have completed all questions, please refold this form with the Harper College address panel on the outside, tape or staple together, and drop form in the mail.**

Operational Staff:

Janice A. Cook, Administrative Secretary
Karla Hill, Research Clerk
Salome Joseph, Clerk
Donna Woodruff, Clerk
Susannah Swift, Clerk

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

William Rainey Harper College
1200 West Algonquin Road
Palatine, Illinois 60067-7398



PRINTED ON RECYCLED PAPER